In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1-36 (canceled)

37. (currently amended) A method comprising:

obtaining one or more stored images wherein the one or more stored images are stored within an image database, wherein the stored images are associated with at least one of a multiplicity of keywords, wherein a multitude of keyword statistics are stored in a database statistics module, wherein the keyword statistics indicate a probability that one of the keywords is associated with one of the stored images whenever another one of the keywords is associated with the same stored image;

obtaining an image and comparing the image to the stored images to identify one or more similar images wherein image similarity is based on at least two factors, wherein one of the at least two factors is closeness in time of image acquisition, ~~and~~ wherein another one of the at least two factors is <u>based on the image contents as</u> determined <u>by</u> ~~using~~ a content based image retrieval module<u>, and wherein no keywords are currently associated with the image</u>;

producing at least two primary keywords based on the keywords associated with the similar images;

determining at least two primary likelihoods associated with the primary keywords;

producing at least two secondary likelihoods that identify at least two finer scale keywords wherein the secondary likelihoods are based on the keyword statistics and the primary likelihoods wherein the database statistics indicate that the finer scale keywords are keywords that are likely to occur when at least one of the primary keywords occurs;

presenting the primary keywords, the finer scale keywords, and a new keyword selection to a user;

obtaining one or more accepted keywords from the user wherein the accepted keywords comprise any one of or combination of the primary keywords, the finer scale keywords, and one or more new keywords entered via the new keyword selection;

storing the image within the image database and in association with the accepted keywords; and

updating the keyword statistics wherein the keywords further comprise the accepted keywords.